

6.4 Hazardous Waste Management

Hazardous waste management (including the management of hazardous components of radioactive mixed waste) at the Hanford Site is regulated by Ecology and EPA pursuant to RCRA and the Washington State Hazardous Waste Management Act. Hazardous waste activities at Hanford are subject to regulation under RCRA by virtue of Section 6001 of RCRA. Washington received authority from EPA to operate the RCRA corrective action program in 1994 (59 FR 55322) and additional RCRA authority in 1996 (61 FR 7736).

Ecology's regulations are consistent with, and at least as stringent as, the EPA regulations implementing RCRA. Under RCRA, *hazardous wastes* are regulated. The waste categories defined in the Ecology regulations (WAC 170-303) are *dangerous wastes*, *acutely hazardous waste*, *extremely hazardous wastes*, and *special wastes*.

Hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal (TSD) facilities are regulated under Section 3004 of RCRA and are required to have a permit by Section 3005 of RCRA. The Hanford Site's RCRA permit is in two portions, one portion issued by EPA Region 10 and the other portion issued by Ecology. The EPA portion of the RCRA permit covers the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments portion of the RCRA permit (EPA 1994). The second portion of the Hanford Site RCRA permit covers the dangerous waste provisions and was most recently modified by Ecology in February 2001 (Ecology 2001a). The Ecology portion of the RCRA permit includes standard conditions, general facility conditions, and specific conditions for individual operating TSD units, TSD units undergoing corrective action, and TSD units undergoing closure. The RCRA permits, along with other environmental permits covering the Hanford Site, are described in the *Annual Hanford Site Environmental Permitting Status Report* (DOE 2002a).

For all alternatives, the non-radioactive hazardous components of mixed waste would be stored at the Hanford Site in accordance with applicable EPA and Ecology regulations. Ultimate treatment and disposal would be conducted in accordance with applicable standards and regulations at the Hanford Site or offsite locations.

Storage and disposal of waste containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) would meet the EPA requirements in 40 CFR 761. These regulations are issued under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA; 15 USC 2601 et seq.). DOE, EPA, and Ecology signed a "Framework Agreement for Management of Polychlorinated Biphenyls in Hanford Tank Waste" in August 2000 (EPA 2000). DOE issued a *Toxic Substances Control Act Polychlorinated Biphenyls Hanford Site Users Guide* in 2001 (DOE 2001f).

6.5 Radioactive Waste Management

DOE facilities used for the management, storage, treatment, and disposal of radioactive waste and radioactive mixed waste are constructed and operated under the authority of the AEA. DOE directives are issued under the authority of Section 161(i)(3) of the AEA that permits DOE to govern activities authorized by the act to protect health and to minimize danger to life or property.